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TAKING CONTROL

DAY 2 OF METRO'S LOOK AT FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS: DOES THE NEW ACT GET A PASSING GRADE? PAGES 8 & 9

Paging Dr. Kreviazuk

Singer-songwriter gets honorary doctorate for humanitarian work from U of W PAGE 2

Lions, cubs killed for the greater good?

Danish zoo defends its latest cull PAGE 5

Nigel Moore stands with his one-year-old son Ira in his West End backlane that he says hasn't seen garbage pickup for five weeks. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Homeowner says he's had no trash pickup for weeks

Something smells. City spokesperson says service not disrupted, but West End man, Coun. Smith disagree

SHANE GIBSON
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A West End homeowner who says a city official told him his garbage hasn't been picked up for weeks because trucks can't make it down his rut-filled backlane was disappointed Wednesday to hear a city spokesperson tell Metro there's been no disruption to his garbage collection at all.

"That's just completely untrue," said Nigel Moore, explaining he's been in regular contact with the city's contract foreman since BFI garbage trucks first missed him and his neighbours in the 600 block of Agnes Street five weeks ago. "(The foreman) said the ruts are so bad that they won't come back until they either plow or it melts."

While overflowing garbage bins could clearly be seen up and down Moore's backlane when a Metro reporter visited Wednesday, city spokesperson Lisa Fraser said in an email the "ruts in this lane are not an issue and are not preventing collection."

Area Coun. Harvey Smith disagrees.

He didn't doubt Moore's story and said garbage service has been hit-and-miss throughout the ward this winter.

"We constantly have calls about garbage not being picked up," he told Metro, noting he's demanding to know exactly how much the private companies in charge of garbage collection have been fined for missed pickups this winter. "They have to be held accountable.

"We never had this problem when the city was picking up garbage."

In the meantime, Moore and his wife, Susan — whose garbage includes their one-year-old son's dirty diapers — said they'd pile their trash in their backyard and hope firebugs don't get to the backlog before their service returns.

"We're in a high-risk arson area," said Susan. "What is the city thinking leaving temptation down every back alley?"

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NEWS

WindCity. Local web show racking up views

It didn't go viral, but the creator of a publicly funded Internet sitcom aimed at promoting Winnipeg is happy with the results of the show's first season.

WindCity, which received money from provincial Crown corporations, a college and other public bodies, garnered more than 12,000 views for its first episode after launching in January.

But the view count for its sixth and final episode of the season was just above 3,000.

WindCity creator Paul Vieira says he expects to meet his target of 100,000 total views of all episodes in the near future, because the episodes are still getting hundreds of views each week on YouTube.

Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation contributed $80,000 to the project, Red River College put in $50,000 and the Canadian Museum For Human Rights ponied up a more modest $2,500.

Red River spokesperson Christine Payne said in a written statement that the college was pleased with the results and the series generated "buzz" about the school.

Manitoba Public Insurance was a key donor as well, chipping in $96,000.

WindCity is a comedy about a couple going through a divorce while starting up a business, and it promotes Winnipeg as a fun place.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dr. Denis Mukwege, Chantal Kreviazuk, Dr. Lloyd Axworthy and Joseph B. Stern at the University of Winnipeg on Wednesday. SHELLEY COOK/FOR METRO

Chantal Kreviazuk performs at U of W, receives doctorate

New performing arts program. It will expand to offer instrumental band, choral and jazz dance

SHELLEY COOK
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Winnipeg really does feel like home for Chantal Kreviazuk.

The singer-songwriter performed her hit Feels Like Home to an appreciative crowd of about 100 faculty, students and onlookers at the University of Winnipeg Wednesday, as a way of celebrating a new music and performing arts program at the U of W's Collegiate.

Thanks largely in part to a $250,000 grant from the University of Winnipeg foundation, as well as monies from other donors, the new performing arts program will expand its already established arts program to offer instrumental band, choral and jazz dance programs in what university president and vice-chancellor Lloyd Axworthy referred to as "phase one."

The program is slated to begin this fall and will see the collegiate expand its partnership with the Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts (MCMA) and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. The school hopes to build future partnerships with other arts groups and organizations, both in Winnipeg and internationally.

As for Kreviazuk, a former Collegiate student, she credited the school for cultivating her artistic background. The Juno winner fondly spoke about being allowed to perform a Pink Floyd song in front of her English class, and how the school offered her the right balance between music and education.

"Without some structure, education and instruction, and what I would call technical skill, these gifts and unlocked potential that lurk inside all of us can be wasted or can be lost," she said.

Later in the day, Kreviazuk received an honourary doctorate for her humanitarian work. She was joined by Dr. Denis Mukwege, who co-founded a hospital in the Congo that treated tens of thousands of women hurt by brutal sexual violence, and Joseph Stern, who helped shape Canadian refugee policy as chair of Canada's Refugee Status Advisory Committee.

WITH FILES FROM ELISHA DACEY

Singer-songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk performs at the U of W on Wednesday. ELISHA DACEY/METRO

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Couns. Justin Swandel, left, and Scott Fielding stand to vote against the city applying for disaster financial assistance. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

City to seek funds for frozen pipes

Not unanimous. Two councillors say asking for financial relief is premature

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

With no end in sight to the flow of cash required to fix Winnipeg's frozen pipes emergency, city council voted in favour of applying for disaster financial assistance.

Mayor Sam Katz and Coun. Russ Wyatt authored the DFA motion for Wednesday's council meeting — a motion necessary in order for the Manitoba Emergency Measure Organization to consider the city's application.

Katz said the costs being incurred by the city over frozen pipes continues to mount.

"We will spend much more than a dollar per person, which is the (DFA's) criteria, about $730,000 is what we have to spend," Katz said during the meeting.

"We don't gain anything by waiting, we lose nothing by going forward right now."

Council did not support the motion unanimously, as Couns. Scott Fielding and Justin Swandel voted nay.

Fielding said it would be an "overreach" to begin the process now, since the initial estimate of the thawing reimbursement back to Dec. 1 — which was also approved on Wednesday — is just more than $200,000.

Swandel argued that the city's reimbursement to homeowners could make those costs ineligible under the disaster financial assistance criteria, since in essence citizens would be applying for assistance.

However, Wyatt shot back at Fielding and Swandel, saying he doesn't know why anyone on council "would try to politicize" the motion.

"This is a pretty straightforward motion, madame speaker, the disaster financial assistance program exists for situations like this," said Wyatt.

Both Wyatt and Katz said that to the people without water due to frozen pipes, this is a disaster.

On the hunt

Police look for man suspected of shooting upskirt vid

Police have released a photo of a man they'd like to speak with after a suspect was caught shooting video under the skirt of a young woman on an escalator at Polo Park Shopping Centre late last month.

The 23-year-old victim was on a break from her job at the mall on Feb. 26 around 2:45 p.m. when she ran into an unknown man who had previously approached her on more than one occasion.

After her break the victim took an escalator to the second floor and noticed the same man standing close behind her.

Police would like to speak to this man. HANDOUT

While still on the escalator the suspect was caught holding a smartphone and video recording the woman under her skirt. He fled after being confronted.

The suspect has a dark complexion, is 20 to 21 years old, five-foot-eleven, has a medium build, between 160 to 170 pounds, with short, black curly hair. METRO

False alarm

Campus evacuated over power drill

A suspicious package that forced the evacuation of Université de Sainte-Boniface and closed streets around the campus Tuesday turned out in the end to be a power tool in a backpack.

Police were called to the campus around 11:20 a.m. after school security noticed a suspicious man who had been asked to leave the campus had left his backpack behind.

Police would like to speak with the man to find out why he left the backpack at the school. METRO

Cops investigate triple stabbing on Main Street

Winnipeg police spent the morning investigating a wide crime scene spanning between Cathedral Avenue and Bannerman Avenue after three men stabbed in the North End made their way to a 7-Eleven for help early Wednesday. They were taken to hospital in unstable condition, and have since been upgraded to stable.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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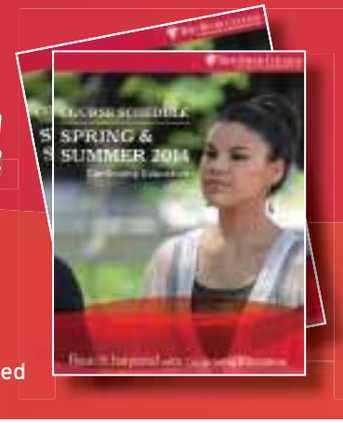

Fletcher to table assisted-suicide bill against government policy

Former cabinet minister. Manitoba MP behind proposed law

A former Conservative cabinet minister who was left paralyzed from the neck down by a 1996 car crash plans to introduce two private member's bills which would allow assisted suicide in some cases.

Steven Fletcher, a Manitoba MP who was dropped from the federal cabinet last summer, is going against government policy with his legislation.

One of Fletcher's two bills would, if passed, allow doctors to help people end their lives under certain restricted circumstances. The second would set up a commission to monitor the system.

He wouldn't go into specific details, saying that will have to wait until after the bills are introduced in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The legislation is likely to face a tough time in the Commons, which last looked at the issue in 2010 and voted against it by a wide margin.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said he has no interest in starting that debate again.

"I think it's a very, very personal issue, a very contentious issue; one that Parliament examined in the not-too-distant past and spoke quite clearly, pronounced itself on it, so I'm not in any hurry to reopen that issue," he said.

Saskatchewan Conservative MP Maurice Vellacott, said he will vote against Fletcher's bills.

"I think there's great palliative care and other things that we can do instead," he said.

But Fletcher said the ensuing debate is what matters, because the question is currently being argued in the courts, rather than in Parliament, where he said it belongs.

"I think it's very important that we have a debate, " he said.

He also said polls suggest Canadians in general support the idea. A Quebec bill on assisted suicide died in the national assembly when the provincial election was called.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conservative MP Steven Fletcher leaves caucus on Parliament Hill on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

In context

Supreme Court to hear B.C. case

The Supreme Court of Canada, which in 1993 narrowly ruled against Sue Rodriguez in her much-debated bid for assisted suicide, has agreed to hear another British Columbia right-to-die case this spring.

Rodriguez, who had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, took her own life in 1994 with the help of an anonymous doctor.

"I really felt that she should have been able to legally receive what was ultimately done," Fletcher said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The director of Copenhagen Zoo, Steffen Straede, stands in front of two lionesses. POLFOTO, JENS DRESLING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Danish zoo defends killing four of its lions

Copenhagen Zoo. This cull has put the zoo on the defensive again, a month after it killed a healthy giraffe

A Danish zoo on Wednesday defended its decision to kill two aging lions and two cubs, citing the risk of inbreeding and the arrival of a new male. This week's cull has put the Copenhagen Zoo on the defensive again, a month after it infuriated animal rights activists by killing a healthy giraffe, dissecting it in public and feeding it to the lions.

In a statement, the zoo said it had to put down the lions to make room for the new, three-year-old male, saying it wouldn't have been accepted by the pride if the older male, 16, were still around.

"Furthermore we couldn't risk that the male lion mated with the old female as she was too old to be mated with again due to the fact that she would have difficulties with birth and parental care of another litter," the zoo said.

The zoo said the cubs were put down because they couldn't fend for themselves and the male would likely kill them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zoo as tough as nature

Zoo officials hope the new male and two females born in 2012 will form the nucleus of a new pride.

- They said the culling "may seem harsh, but in nature is necessary to ensure a strong pride of lions."

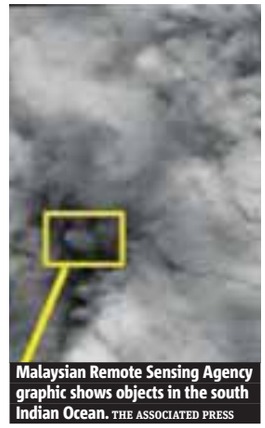
122 objects spotted in ocean offer fresh lead

A French satellite scanning the Indian Ocean for remnants of a missing jetliner found a possible plane debris field containing 122 objects, a top Malaysian official said Wednesday, calling it "the most credible lead that we have."

Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said the objects were more than 2,500 kilometres southwest of Australia, in the area where a desperate, multinational hunt has been going on since other satellites detected possible jet debris.

Clouds obscured the latest satellite images, but dozens of objects could be seen in the gaps, ranging in length from one metre to 23 metres. Hishammuddin said some of them "appeared to be bright, possibly indicating solid materials."

The images were taken Sunday. Various floating objects have been spotted by planes and satellites over the last week, including on Wednesday, when the Australian Maritime Safety Authority said three more objects were seen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency graphic shows objects in the south Indian Ocean. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Search now size of Alaska

Malaysia announced Monday that a mathematical analysis of the final known satellite signals from the plane showed that it crashed in the sea, killing everyone on board.

- The new data greatly reduced the search zone, but it remains huge — an area estimated at 1.6 million square kilometres, about the size of Alaska.
- Recovering any part of the plane will be tough because of the sheer depth of the ocean — much of it between about 3,000-4,500 metres (10,000-15,000 feet) deep in the search area.

Turkey

Court orders Twitter restored

A Turkish court ordered the telecommunications authority to restore access to Twitter on Wednesday, issuing an injunction five days after the government blocked access to the social network.

The ban came shortly after Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan threatened to "rip out the roots" of Twitter, which has been a conduit for links to recordings suggesting government corruption.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Art mimics life

Movie similar to disaster on hold

A disaster movie about a jet that crashes into the ocean on its way to Beijing has been put on hold because of its similarities to the missing Malaysian plane.

Arclight Films, the company behind Deep Water, said Wednesday that pre-production has been halted for the time being.

"We're delaying it out of respect for what's going on," managing director Gary Hamilton said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Secret Service

Three of Obama's bodyguards called home

The chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee said Wednesday he's troubled by an incident involving a drunken Secret Service agent in connection with President Barack Obama's overseas trip to the Netherlands.

On Sunday, the agency called three agents home from the Netherlands just before Obama's arrival for talks with foreign leaders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Poland warns against Putin

Ukrainian tanks are transported from their base in Perevalnoe, outside Simferopol, Crimea, Wednesday. Poland's ambassador to Canada is warning the security and certainty of the international post-Cold War era ended with Russia's recent annexation of Crimea and that NATO should have a more defined presence in eastern Europe.

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The truth is out there

Dwarf planet found in 'celestial wasteland'

Peering into the far reaches of the solar system, astronomers have spied a frozen pink world 12 billion kilometres from the sun.

It's the second such object to be discovered in a region of space beyond Pluto long considered a celestial wasteland. Until now, the lone known resident in this part of the solar system was an oddball dwarf planet spotted in 2003 named Sedna after the mythological Inuit goddess who created the sea creatures of the Arctic.

The new object, 2012 VP113, was tracked using a new camera on a ground telescope in Chile.

Like Sedna, VP is also a dwarf planet. It's jokingly nicknamed Biden after U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden because of the object's initials. It measures about 450 kilometres across. By contrast, Earth is about 12,713 kilometres across.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arctic talks continue despite rocky relations with Russia

Diplomacy. International politicians concerned about how country's actions in Ukraine may affect the situation up north

Canada may be upset at Russia over Ukraine, but conversations with the country continue over the Arctic.

Government officials confirm that a Russian delegation is attending a meeting in Yellowknife this week held by the Arctic Council, an eight-member group of countries that ring the North. All members are attending, even though the council includes some of Russia's harshest critics, such as Canada and the United States.

"The prime minister has instructed Canadian officials to review all bilateral interactions with Russia," said Amanda Gordon, spokeswoman for Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq, the current head of the council.

"For the moment, however, Arctic Council work does continue as planned."

The Yellowknife meeting began Tuesday and continues until Thursday. The delegations are being led by bureaucrats, not politicians, and are all closed to the media.

It's the second time senior Arctic officials have met since Canada assumed its two-year chairmanship of the council.

In Europe this week, Harper questioned the mentality of the Russian government, which has said Canada has no right to speak out against Russia's moves against Ukraine. Some government departments have already reduced their contact with Russia.

Speaking Tuesday in Washington, D.C., Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said her department is one of them.

"In my own portfolio we have looked at where there are points of contact, and we have stopped those points of contact," she said. "We are taking this very seriously, and it goes through the entire government."

Most of the Arctic Council's work involves the collection and sharing of scientific, environmental and social information between member countries and six aboriginal groups that have permanent observer status. The council has negotiated binding agreements that include deals on Arctic search and rescue and the prevention of oil spills.

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Drunk driving

Counsellor convicted of murder faces 45 years to life

A substance-abuse counsellor who drove over three kilometres through a Los Angeles suburb with a dying man on her windshield faces a maximum prison term of 45 years to life.

A jury last month found Sherry Lynn Wilkins, 52, guilty of second-degree murder, drunken driving and hit-and-run for the incident that killed 31-year-old Phillip Moreno in Torrance in November 2012.

Wilkins also has two previous felony convictions that are considered serious and make her eligible for California's three strikes law.

Prosecutors at the time of the trial said Wilkins' blood-alcohol level was nearly twice the legal limit, and that what she did to Moreno "struck at human dignity."

"We do not tolerate someone who does not pull over when they see someone on their windshield," Deputy District Attorney John Harlan said after the verdict. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More bodies found after mudslide. Officials holding out hope for survivors

With search and cadaver dogs leading the way, rescuers using small bulldozers and their bare hands pushed through sludge strewn with splintered homes and twisted cars to find 10 more bodies in the debris of a Washington state mudslide, authorities said.

Despite the grim discoveries as the search entered its fifth day Wednesday — and the likelihood that more bodies will be found — officials were still hoping to find survivors.

"We haven't lost hope that there's a possibility that we can find somebody alive in some pocket area," said Snohomish County District 21 Fire Chief Travis Hots.

Two bodies were recovered Tuesday, while eight more were located in the debris field from Saturday's slide 55 miles northeast of Seattle, Hots said. That brings the likely death toll to 24, though authorities are keeping the official toll at 16 until the eight other bodies are recovered.

With scores still missing, authorities are working off a list of 176 people unaccounted for, though some names were believed to be duplicates.

Warning not heeded

"For someone to say that this plan did not warn that this was a risk is a falsity."

Rob Flaner, author of a 2010 report about landslides and high-risk areas

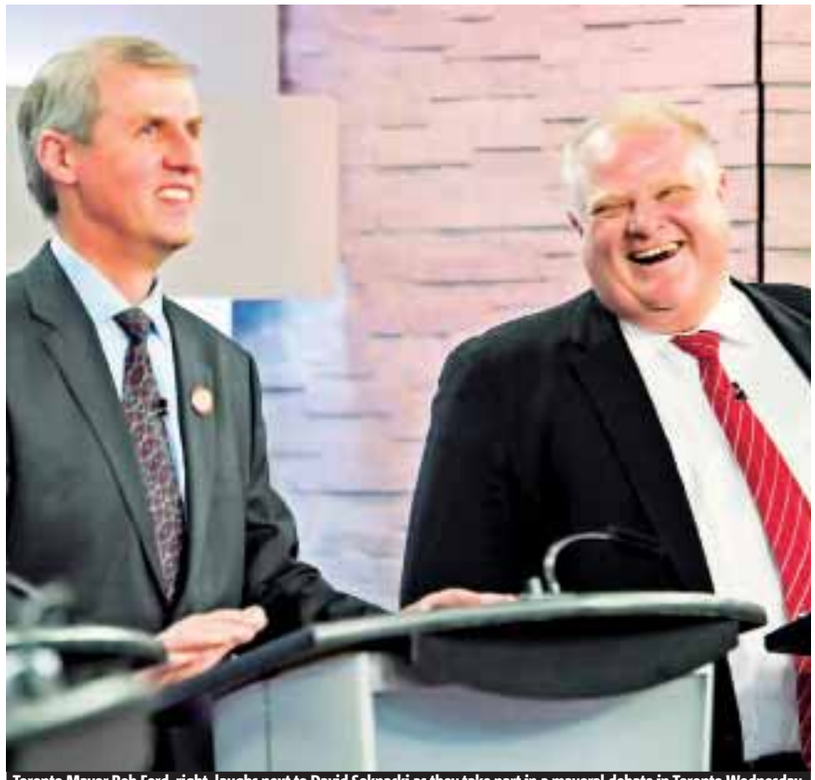
Hundreds of rescuers and heavy equipment operators slogged through the muck and rain, following the search dogs over the unstable surface.

As the increasingly desperate search progressed, reports surfaced that warned of the potential for dangerous landslides in the community.

A 2010 report commissioned by Snohomish County to comply with a federal law warned that neighbourhoods along the Stillaguamish River were among the highest-risk areas, The Seattle Times reported. The hillside that collapsed Saturday outside of the community of Oso was one highlighted as particularly dangerous, said the report by California-based engineering and architecture firm Tetra Tech. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chow to Ford: 'It's time to take down the circus tent'

Toronto. Scandal-plagued mayor accused of having made the city 'an international embarrassment' during live televised debate



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, laughs next to David Soknacki as they take part in a mayoral debate in Toronto Wednesday.
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto's scandal-plagued mayor held his own against several concerted attacks during Wednesday's first televised mayoral debate as he seeks to stay in office come October.

Rob Ford, who frequently rolled his eyes, stared at the ceiling and flashed grins at the audience, defended his fiscal record as he shot back at the candidates vying to replace him.

"Four years ago, I was elected to stop the gravy train," Ford said, thumping a familiar drum. "I have stopped the gravy train."

Former NDP MP Olivia Chow was quick to shoot him down: "It's time for you to go because your gravy train has turned into a train wreck," Chow said. "You need to pack up that nonsense you're talking about."

Chow was the first candidate to allude directly to, but not mention, Ford's well-known problems — including smoking crack and spouting obscenities on live TV — that have made him talk-show fodder and made him a recognizable name around the world.

Ford was frequently content to let the others debate among themselves, but didn't hesitate to jump in.

Former provincial PC party leader John Tory said Ford had "run out of gas" given his inability to get anything through a council that has stripped him of most of his powers. He accused the mayor of letting taxpayers down and ruining the city's reputation.

Mostly, though, it was Chow and Ford who went at each other during the two-hour debate. "It's time to take down the circus tent at city hall," Chow said, saying the mayor had made Toronto "an international embarrassment."

Toronto voters will choose whether Ford remains in office or will be replaced Oct. 27.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Up for debate

"We've had it with the scandals and lack of truth. It's time to go because you're embarrassing our city."

Toronto mayoral candidate Olivia Chow to Rob Ford

Legislation tabled to clear grain backlog

The federal government has tabled legislation aimed at increasing the movement of grain that has been left sitting in bins across the Prairies because of a railway transportation bottleneck.

"Our reputation as a trading nation is at stake," federal Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said Wednesday.

"And (Agriculture) Minister (Gerry) Ritz has let us know about the many contracts that we've had difficulties filling as a result of the grain not moving off the Prairies."

The legislation introduced Wednesday would amend the Canada Grain Act and the Canada Transportation Act.

Among other things, the changes would allow the Canadian Grain Commission to regulate how much a grain company will pay to a farmer if the company doesn't meet delivery dates set out in a contract.

It also aims to extend what are called inter-switching limits from 30 kilometres to 160 kilometres in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Most grain elevators on the Prairies are only served by one railway and the federal government says expanding inter-switching would allow more service by more rail companies.

"This reflects the new reality of far apart elevators are and the changes in the rail system," Ritz said in a conference call Wednesday.

"This inter-switching is the best way to give us a quasi-competitive situation."

Western Canadian farmers harvested a record crop of 76 million tonnes last year — 50 per cent higher than average. But the crop is not moving.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A national priority

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair has said the prime minister has to make unclogging the backlog of grain a national priority or lose Canada's place in the world market.

- Mulcair says countries like Japan are going to start looking to the United States since Canada doesn't seem to be able to get its grain to port.

CATCHING DREAMS

Day 1: the Problem
Day 2: the Plan
Day 3: the Promise

Chance

Upheaval is coming for First Nations schools. The federal government is planning to invest nearly $2 billion into the neglected system and give communities more control over their own education. Metro travelled to two on-reserve schools to document their condition, the details of the plan and why many people say the proposed changes may be their kids' last chance.

Critics speak

They threw out our work, say Liberals

Despite Prime Minister Stephen Harper's claim that his First Nations education bill is "historic" and "long overdue," Carolyn Bennett remembers when the Liberal Party made a similar attempt years ago.

The aboriginal affairs critic and Toronto MP pointed to the 2005 Kelowna Accord, a broad-sweeping piece of legislation that sought to close the gap between First Nations communities and the rest of Canadian society.

It was scrapped in 2007 in a vote after the Conservatives were elected.

"The fact that the Kelowna Accord was thrown out was very upsetting," Bennett told Metro. "The Liberals are serious about this and want to carry on the work that was begun with Kelowna."

Bennett also had few kind words for how the current government formulated its First Nations education bill. She called the initial attempt, which was introduced in November and is now undergoing revision, a complete disaster.

"There needs to be an understanding that bottom-up is the only way this will work," she said. "More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people such that they can't even hear what you're saying."

"More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people."

While Bennett conceded that Harper's promise of $1.9 billion for on-reserve education over seven years is comparable to former Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin's promise of $1.7 billion over five years, she focused her criticism on how each administration arrived at the conclusion.

"(The Kelowna Accord) started with hundreds of people in a room, deciding what will be the priorities and then dividing up into working groups and 18 months later coming up with a real plan with the dollars attached," she explained.

By contrast, she said, the Conservatives have imposed their views without proper consultation and have delayed the injection of funds into the system.

"We found out when the budget was tabled those monies won't fall until next year," she said. "So in some ways it was one step forward and two steps back."

However, Bennett added there is some evidence the Conservatives have been listening and eagerly awaits the release of the newly drafted document.

"This is about fixing the greatest social injustice in Canada," she said.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON

Toronto MP and Liberal critic for aboriginal affairs Carolyn Bennett CONTRIBUTED

The First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act. Metro tracks down answers to the big questions about the government's solution

JACOB MORGAN
Metro in Saskatoon

How much will it cost?

That's the main question.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has committed a total of $1.9 billion. This includes $1.25 billion to run the system beginning in 2016 and increasing 4.5 per cent annually, $500 million for infrastructure over seven years beginning in 2015 as well as $160 million for transitional costs over four years beginning in 2015.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, tells Metro the 4.5 per cent escalator is a step in the right direction.

"We've been advocating for years to break the two per cent cap," said Atleo, referring to the limit placed on education funding increases in the '90s, which doesn't adequately account for inflation and population growth.

What will curriculum look like at on-reserve schools?

One of the prime minister's catchphrases is "a comparable system." The goal is to create First Nations curriculums and high school diploma qualifications that parallel those offered in non-aboriginal schools.

In addition, the government has promised to continue consulting with indigenous communities — after its original draft proposal was met with condemnation last fall — to incorporate language and cultural programs that reflect the unique heritage of all 633 First Nations across the country.

"We said we needed resources for language and culture, (and) they've identified that they put that in that $1.9-billion budget announcement that they made," said Atleo.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

"The overriding goal of the legislation is better outcomes for First Nation students. First Nations and the Government of Canada agree that this is best achieved through First Nations control."
— Government of Canada website

How will the new act change control of First Nations education?

Until now the Indian Act has governed First Nations education. Since the end of the residential school era, Ottawa has directly administered the system.

The new bill will create First Nations education authorities, which will function similarly to school boards in the provincial system. Authorities will govern schools on a local level and ensure they meet national and provincial standards.

Bernard Valcourt, minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, tells Metro that First Nations communities will appoint their own authorities, which can represent an area or a single school.

"I don't want to control education," said Valcourt. "I want First Nations to control education and First Nations will have options."

Will there be accountability?

The First Nations education authorities will oversee administrators and require annual reports. The regular reporting is designed to ensure teachers are certified and standards are met.

Atleo said accountability is a two-way street and both sides are responsible.

"They moved away from requiring or suggesting ministerial oversight," he said. "Now we're talking about reciprocal accountability."

Valcourt added that First Nations

to act

education systems "will have to be accountable to their community, to the parents, to the kids and not to the federal government."

Who opposes this?

There are numerous groups across Canada opposing the bill. One example is the Onion Lake Cree Nation in the Treaty No. 6 Territory.

Diana Steinhauer holds a PhD degree in indigenous knowledge from the Blue Quills First Nations College and works in governance at Onion Lake. Her official title is ka-nikanapistahk, which she says is Cree for "those who can't speak for themselves, and it refers to the ones who aren't here yet: the animals, the plants, the birds."

Steinhauer explained that Onion Lake rejects the education act and any form of legislation that impedes on their sovereignty.

"We have our inherent jurisdiction over education and we're not going to relinquish it," she said.

The government is not in a position to hand over control, said Steinhauer, because treaty-rights holders should already have that power.

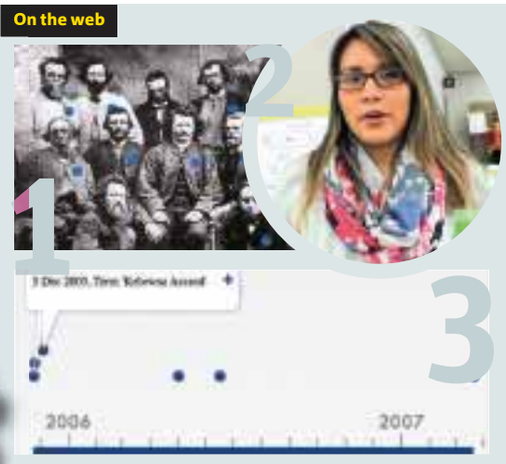
"It's not their jurisdiction to be telling us what to do," she said.

She added that the AFN doesn't speak for Onion Lake, as "it's not an inherent rights holder, it's an organization developed and funded by the government."

> "The legislation will require that First Nation schools ... award widely recognized diplomas or certificates. These requirements do not currently exist."
> — Government of Canada website

BERNARD VALCOURT, MINISTER OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

On the web



1 Blue dot. A sign of defiance

Find out how a little blue sticker became a symbol of protest for opponents of the act. CHRISTI BELCOURT/TWITTER

2 Youth. Beyond the politics

Head over to metronews.ca to see what attendees at the Assembly of First Nations Youth Summit had to say about their learning experiences.

3 Timeline. Scrapped attempt

Go online to see an interactive timeline of the quashed Kelowna Accord and hear from the national co-chair of the Liberals' Aboriginal Peoples' Commission.

Critics speak

Too much we don't know, says NDP

MORGAN MODJESKI
Metro in Saskatoon

The aboriginal affairs critic for Canada's opposition party has "major concerns" about the federal government's plan to improve First Nations education.

Announced back in February, the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act would inject more than $1.9 billion in additional funding to address a financial shortfall for on-reserve education, starting in 2015.

But critics of the bill have questions on how — and when — the act will be implemented.

"We actually haven't seen any legislation at this point, and what my concern is, is that the process of how this is going to be drafted is unclear," said Jean Crowder, aboriginal affairs critic for the New Democratic Party.

"From our perspective, you can't draft this legislation without having First Nations at the table."

Although the federal government held eight face-to-face consultations, 54 informational briefings and received 631 responses to an online survey while drafting the original First Nations Education Act, it was widely rejected.

> "I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together."

And with the federal government's recent announcement having little information on how First Nations will be consulted, Crowder said it's hard to know what its outcome will be.

Jean Crowder, NDP critic for aboriginal affairs CONTRIBUTED

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together, whether it's going to have regional representation from across the country," she said.

While Crowder feels the government's acknowledgment of the funding gap is a step in the right direction, the fact money doesn't start flowing until after the 2015 federal election raises questions for her and her supporters.

"I can't speak to their motivation on it, but judging by the emails and letters I'm getting in my office, nobody's being fooled," she said.

"People recognize the money doesn't flow until after a federal election, and given past history, just because people say one thing before an election doesn't mean they're going to do the same thing after.

"I think the timing is very suspicious," she said.

But Bernard Valcourt, federal minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, says the act has nothing to do with the upcoming election.

"I dismiss these charges ... (of) pure political partisanship on (the) part of the people who would rather not have us in government.

"A lot of work has been done. This has been evaluated and looked at by First Nations all across Canada. We've received their views, we've got the AFN resolution, we've got the open letter of the national chief and we have identified a way forward."

BlackBerry beckons business with security software in BYOD era

Bring your own device. As more staffers use personal phones to conduct business, the Waterloo tech firm aims to provide peace of mind

BlackBerry Ltd. has received certification for U.S. government employees to use its Secure Work Space enterprise software on iPhones and devices that use the Android operating system.

The technology is part of products that became available through the rollout of its BlackBerry 10 operating system.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company says the software helps government and business employees use mobile devices of their choice with lower security risks.

The certification will give security-conscious organizations, like U.S. and Canadian government agencies, the ability to use software that separates sensitive corporate data from personal content on a single mobile device.

More technology companies have been chasing the lucrative business market as BlackBerry's popularity waned. Both Google and Apple developed their own enterprise software designed to attract government agencies and corporations.

BlackBerry has relied on its strong reputation for security to help rollout a series of new security options linked to BlackBerry 10.

This week, the company announced that it's about to launch an update to its popular BBM chat service that it hopes will generate extra revenue.

Part of the plan includes a more secure level of BBM for smartphones on corporate accounts that companies would pay extra to use.

BlackBerry is also working on launching a new BBM Shop that deals in virtual goods and would work alongside companies to generate money through sponsorship deals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawsuit launched

In other developments yesterday, chief executive John Chen says he's fighting against future product leaks by filing a lawsuit that he hopes will set an example.

- Chen alleges that an unnamed person stole confidential details about a future BlackBerry product and leaked them to the public.

Saga of the sweet, then sour stock debut

Characters of the King Digital Entertainment game Candy Crush Saga walk the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, before the company's IPO, Wednesday. The festive move didn't last. King's stock priced at $22.50 US on Tuesday, valuing the company at $7.1 billion, but it opened on Wednesday at $20.50, down almost nine per cent. Its shares lost more ground by the day's close, falling more than 15 per cent. King Digital Entertainment PLC had $1.88 billion in revenue last year. That's more than 10 times its 2012 revenue of $164.4 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Deal with the devil?
It took one man 16 years to get out of loan agreement

It started with an unwanted laptop, and it ended in Britain's Supreme Court.

A Scottish man on Wednesday won a 16-year court battle sparked by a wrangle over a loan he'd taken out to buy a computer.

Oil worker Richard Durkin bought a laptop from a store in the Scottish city of Aberdeen in 1998, using a credit agreement with lender HFC Bank for about 1,500 pounds. He returned the computer the next day because it lacked an internal modem, and tried to cancel the credit deal.

The bank said he couldn't, and after he refused to pay, it declared he had defaulted. Durkin said the bad credit rating meant he was unable to buy a house.

Durkin took legal action, and in 2008 — a decade after the purchase — a court awarded him more than 100,000 pounds. That decision was overturned by appeals judges, and the case eventually wound its way to the Supreme Court.

The saga ended Wednesday when five Supreme Court justices ruled that Durkin had "validly rescinded the credit agreement" and awarded him 8,000 pounds ($13,000 US) in damages, a fraction of his initial award. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Have password fatigue?
Your voice may solve that

With passwords and PINs increasingly being targeted by hackers, speaking could become a new method to access secure accounts.

Voice biometrics — technology that knows who you are based on your voice characteristics — is already being used by banks and telecom companies globally for better security, says Brett Beranek of software company Nuance Communications.

"Our voices are unique to us, just like our DNA," says Beranek, from the U.S.-based Nuance's Montreal office.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Airbag issue

Nissan recalls 60,000 vehicles in Canada

Nissan is recalling about 60,000 cars, SUVs and minivans in Canada because the front passenger airbags may not inflate in a crash.

The announcement is part of a broader recall of just over 1 million cars, SUVs and minivans across North America by the automaker. It's the company's second recall to fix the same problem.

The recall affects almost 990,000 vehicles in the U.S. and small numbers elsewhere. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 90.22¢ (+0.61¢)

TSX 14,184.10 (-115.39)

OIL $100.26 US (+$1.07)

GOLD $1,303.40 US (-$8.00)

Natural gas: $4.39 US (-$0.01)
Dow Jones: 16,268.99 (-98.89)

I SURRENDER, MOTHER NATURE

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

OK, winter, I give up.

Forget discontent. This is the winter of our disbelief.

Mother Nature went from her usual fickle and frigid self to full-on cruel and cold-hearted. Bing Crosby's White Christmas gave way long ago to Game of Thrones' Winter Without End. Jack Frost bit my nose off and spat it in my face.

We were once in a snow globe, but now we're trapped Under the Dome, scratching at the glass and screaming for anyone to let us out.

As I write this, the Maritimes is being hit with the sort of storm that usually gives rise to over-the-top, two-word blends like polar vortex, frostquake or snowpocalypse. By the time you read this, the blizzard may well be known as a Sleet Scream, The Parthenon Freeze or Icetrocity 2014.

Meanwhile, in Toronto, it's been cold for so long that my friends and I are deeply excited that the forecast for the week includes such mercies as 10 degrees and rainy, which will give us at least one day to dream that we're Vancouverites adrift in a warmish sea of cappuccinos and cannabis.

(This column is least relevant for Vancouver residents, but just replace the word "snow" with "rain," the word "cold" with "drab" and the words "We're all in this together" with "Get bent.")

The predicted improvement from insufferable weather to unpleasant weather had given me hope that things were improving, but then I saw a new headline on Wednesday: "WINTER-LIKE WEATHER TO CONTINUE UNTIL AT LEAST MID-APRIL."

It's funny how your eyes play tricks on you, because when I first glanced at the headline I read it as "LEAP FROM THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY." I thought about it, but figured the snow would probably break my fall anyway.

Which leads me back to my original thought: I give up. I have no more rage, no more despair to give. The tears only freeze on my face. The seven-day forecast has pushed me through the seven stages of grief and it's time to accept my frosty fate.

I accept that it's going to be winter forever. And I for one welcome our new, flakey overlords.

Why, winter year-round will be grand.

Patio weather will be any time we want, there'll be no annoying change of car tires, no suffering through another bus-stop simpleton asking, "Hot enough for ya?"

Hockey in June will make perfect sense, the cars-versus-bikes feud will end, and a balaclava will provide all the SPF protection you need.

No smog, no humidity, no insects. No summer love means no summer heartbreaks.

Endless winter will mean being comfortably numb, with smiles frozen on our faces.

I give up, winter. You win. I am yours, and you're all right.

A naysayer might claim I have Stockholm syndrome, but I checked. It's 14 and sunny there.

Uncle, Mother Nature. Uncle.

ZOOM

10,000-calorie, beastly burger

Substantial sandwich inspired by a cartoon

The 10,000-calorie whopper, dubbed the Ulti-Meatum, was cooked up by restaurant owners Corinne and John Clarkson after seeing the meat feast on Cartoon Network's The Regular Show.

The monster meal includes five pounds (2.2 kilograms) of meat and a cheeseburger within a burger just like in the children's animation. The owners of the Mister Eaters fish and chips restaurant in Preston, England, are offering up a man-versus-food challenge where daring punters can eat for free if they can finish the burger in one sitting. METRO

TWITTER:@TORGANDELLIOTT

Q & A with John Clarkson, one of the creators

Special plate needed to hold it

Was this as much a personal challenge as anything else?
Yeah, I enjoy it and it's a bit of fun. I'm a butcher by trade and I'm familiar with meat and how it sticks together, so I thought I'll have a go. We've done the world's biggest deep-fried Ferrero Rocher at 11 pounds (five kilograms) in weight and that went global, so I thought I could do the same with this. It gets people talking; the shop's been overwhelmed.

Did you have any problems building the burger?
We had three or four flops. I had to design a plate with pins that are the same height as the burger, so that it doesn't topple over. The thing with my burger is that it's not messy when you cut it open — you get a really nice cross-section as you can see in the picture.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

The Oculus Rift VR helmet's splashy debut on the tech conference circuit helped make it one of the most successful Kickstarters of all time, eventually leading to Facebook's $2B purchase of Oculus on Tuesday. So it looks like VR is about ready to become a thing, and these movies available on Netflix will provide a nice glimpse of the nightmarish future it will usher in.

The Oculus Rift virtual reality headset THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

eXistenz:
Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jude Law star as a video game designer and her protégé who flit between virtual worlds while avoiding assassins determined to hunt them down in this sci-fi brain bender from David Cronenberg. It's truly weird and wonderful.

Strange Days:
A gem lying among the junk of mid-'90s cyber-paranoia flicks, the Kathryn Bigelow-directed Strange Days is the story of a former cop who stumbles across a high-profile murder among his collection of virtual reality clips, wrapping him up in a manhunt across an L.A. that has disintegrated into a war zone as the calendar heads toward the year 2000.

Evolver:
Here is where we veer decidedly into B-movie territory when an elite gamer gets a chance to play a live version of his favourite video game. Naturally, this leads to big, violent problems when he finds himself battling a ruthlessly efficient killer robot.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: A US$297 course called conscious uncoupling promises a happy breakup. Would you pay?

@Canucklehead_ca: Why pay to have the cow sent back to pasture when you can simply give up milk for free?

@prussell_pc: I have paid .. far more. This program takes two to un-tango, and so wouldn't have worked for me.

@AnyaZub: That's like four bottles of whiskey,cover charge and two rounds at the bar for me and two of my best friends.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: winnipegletters@metronews.ca

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SCENE 2

Why KEN mode don't think they'll win a Juno this year

Metal category.
Not that they didn't make a killer album, but so did a lot of other guys, says frontman

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jared Story
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Local noise rock band KEN mode is up for Metal/Hard Music Album of the Year at the 2014 Juno Awards in Winnipeg. CONTRIBUTED

For the second time in the category's three-year history, KEN mode is nominated for Metal/Hard Music Album of the Year at the Juno Awards.

The Winnipeg noise rock trio won the trophy in 2012 for its fourth studio album, Venerable. This year, the band is nominated for its latest album, Entrench.

"I don't think we're going to win, though," says vocalist-guitarist Jesse Matthewson, who is joined in KEN mode by drummer-brother Shane Matthewson and bassist Andrew LaCour.

"Last time I thought we had a chance to win. This time I think it would be a poor decision for them to pick us.

"To have us win two-thirds of the time looks dumb. Not that we didn't make a really good album, but there were other extremely good albums."

Also up for the Juno is heavy metal band Anciients, death metallers Gorguts, punk rockers The Flatliners and progressive metal band Protest the Hero.

"Personally, and we've been telling a bunch of people this, we think Gorguts should and will win," Matthewson says.

"They had the most critically acclaimed record and they have by far the biggest legacy in terms of creative metal in Canada. The only other band that comes close to matching them would be Voivod, who for some reason wasn't nominated this year."

"I think the record (Entrench) we put out for this one is even better than the one we won for, but I think they'll probably pick someone else and personally I think having a band like Gorguts actually just makes (the award) look even better and more creative, and for me it would make the Juno we won mean even more."

But what does a Juno nomination mean?

Matthewson said for KEN mode, it should help get funding for the next album, and bring more PR opportunities. As far as selling more KEN mode records or creating a bigger audience at the band's live shows, Matthewson isn't sure.

"It's all just another puzzle piece that fits into the overall puzzle, but we don't know what the puzzle will look like in the end," Matthewson says.

"But how can you? I mean, world domination and huge fame and success, right? Either that or burrowing back into obscurity. One of the two."

Details

The Juno for Metal/Hard Music Album of the Year will be awarded on Sat., March 29 at the RBC Convention Centre.

The life and times of a Bomb Girl

For two seasons, actress Charlotte Hegele immersed herself in the life of Second World War munitions factory worker Kate Andrews on the series Bomb Girl.

While her character grew on the series — breaking away from her authoritarian father and dealing with rumours of her "unnatural" love for fellow munitions worker Betty — so too did Hegele's knowledge of the period.

With the TV movie Bomb Girls: Facing the Enemy airing Thursday at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Global, we asked Hegele to tell us what she learned about the era in her role as Kate. **METRO**

Charlotte Hegele plays Kate Andrews in Bomb Girls.
CONTRIBUTED

Women's roles in war were dangerous, too

Before working on Bomb Girls I never knew the crucial role Canadian women played during the Second World War.

In school I only ever learned about how men bravely fought on the front lines. But it was the women back home who made the ammunition those Canadian soldiers used to win the war.

It was a dangerous job that paved the way for later generations of women to work in an industrial setting. It was a hazardous workplace and those women stepped up to the task.

'Their stories gave me goosebumps.'

I was given the opportunity to meet the women from that era and hear first-hand their accounts of the Second World War.

From building bombs, to cracking German codes, to serving overseas, these women did it all. Their stories gave me goosebumps.

I'll never forget how incredible those women were, and still are.

Movies, music and fashion in wartime

Working on Bomb Girls, I was immersed in 1940s culture.

I learned hit songs sung by Vera Lynn, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. I watched movies like Alfred Hitchcock's Suspicion (1941) and Saboteur.

Fashion was transformed by wartime rationing. Hemlines got shorter. Stocking seams were drawn up women's legs to fake the real thing. Movie stars like Veronica Lake styled their hair into up-dos to encourage safe practices on factory production lines. The war changed everything.

It's all about the girls

In the film and television industry there is an unwritten rule that promotes the idea that audiences would prefer to see stories centred around men rather than women.

Bomb Girls proves this wrong. On Bomb Girls I got to work with some of the most talented and passionate women in the business like Adrienne Mitchell, Janis Lundman, Anne Wheeler, Rachel Talalay, and of course Meg Tilly.

These women shaped me into being both a better performer and a stronger person. I can't thank them enough.

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5 of the weirdest celebrity selfies

In a world full of social media and selfies, it's no surprise that celebs are bound to get in trouble for some of the photos they post. Sometimes they're too sexy, sometimes they're too tasteless, other times ... they're just weird.

JENNIFER VALDEZ
Metro World News in New York City

5. Post-workout posing

Kim Kardashian and Blac Chyna pose for their post-workout selfie at the gym. We're not sure if the weight is actually coming off or just shifting to other places.

INSTAGRAM @KIMKARDASHIAN

4. Bath buddies

Conan O'Brien and Ricky Gervais get a little scrub-a-dub-dub in the tub time. Ricky posted this bubbly selfie via Twitter appearing as if the two had been busted in the bathtub.

TWITTER @RICKYGERVAIS

3. Miley's tasty Moonman

Miley Cyrus just can't seem to keep her tongue in her mouth as she snaps a selfie, nearly licking a Video Music Award. Most would say she's disrespecting the Moonman, similar to how she disrespected the foam finger.

INSTAGRAM @MILEYCYRUS

2. Long hair, don't care

Madonna posted this Instagram photo three days ago titled "Long hair; Don't care." While Madonna may not care about her new look, some fans were pretty creeped out by the underhair selfie.

INSTAGRAM @MADONNA

1. Sexy Selena

After Selena posted this sexy snapshot on Instagram, reports claimed it was taken by Justin Bieber. One thing's for sure, she seems to be having some trouble with the curtains.

INSTAGRAM @SELENAGOMEZ

Foster the People don't feel the pressure

Looking for inspiration. Before recording the follow-up to their first hit record, the band took time to travel and hang out at home

Mark Foster's favourite hit songs are the ones written without thought given to eventual chart potential. So when it came time for him to pen the smash follow-up to his band Foster the People's out-of-left-field 2011 hit Pumped Up Kicks, he didn't even bother to try.

"I feel like trying to write a song in order to be a big hit is just not something I'm interested in because it's not going to come from an authentic place of expression," Foster said. "I've heard a lot of bands try to do that type of thing on their second record, especially if they happen to have a hit or a couple of hits on their first, and a lot of times the stuff ends up sounding like Budweiser commercials, you know? We don't make music for that reason. We're not the corporation of Foster the People. We're a band."

Not selling out

"We're not the corporation of Foster the People. We're a band."

Mark Foster of Foster the People on why he doesn't try to write hits

The tsunami-like experience of having a multi-platinum, Grammy-nominated hit left the trio feeling unmoored as they completed touring behind their debut. They weren't sure exactly where they wanted to go, but it wasn't directly to the studio.

So Foster and Fink travelled the world for inspiration for the 11 songs that would go on to make up Supermodel, out this week. And drummer Mark Pontius hunkered down at home, processing the experience in a different way.

Foster returned from his travels with song sketches, half-finished ideas and a general concept of where he wanted to go. The band moved into a home in Malibu, Calif., that had a studio and sorted everything out with Grammy-winning producer Paul Epworth, who co-wrote and produced some of the masterful tracks on Adele's 21. Epworth also produced some of Foster the People's gold-selling 2011 debut, Torches.

The Malibu location crystallized everything for Foster. He had just returned from visiting North Africa and the Middle East, where he encountered people who live a simpler subsistence lifestyle, and the juxtaposition resonates on Supermodel.

"It's really about, I guess, the difference between the culture that we live in in L.A. and looking at the rest of the world and seeing how other people live with the focus on kind of just community, communication, real connections, social media and how social media is affecting our culture now," Foster said.

His experiences aren't just reflected thematically. Sounds he heard are woven into the album's gauzy dream pop, adding a flavour — and a challenge — he hadn't initially expected.

Foster the People's Jacob Fink, Mark Foster and Mark Pontius. THE CANADIAN PRESS

For instance, album opener Are You What You Want to Be? with its 6/8 time signature and Dadaist lyrics leans heavily on sounds he heard in Morocco.

"I think that's the fun part, really letting that wild animal in the room, then trying to catch the tail," Foster said. "Once you have the tail, it's going to pull you where it's going to pull you. That's the spirit of this album."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tickets are available at the casinos, charge by phone at 1-855-985-5000 or order online at ticketmaster.ca
Patrons must be 18 years of age or older. Photo ID may be required.

Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Selena, stop hitting repeat-peat-peat on that relationship: Parents

Selena Gomez's parents are reportedly gearing up for another intervention for the former Disney star, hoping a return trip to rehab and distance from on-again, off-again boyfriend Justin Bieber will get her back on the straight and narrow, according to Life & Style Weekly. Their last attempts to convince Gomez to seek help for anxiety and alleged substance abuse issues went well, with Gomez voluntarily checking into the Meadows treatment facility in Arizona — but she checked herself out two weeks later to rush to Bieber's side in the wake of his legal troubles. And she's been spotted with the troubled Canadian pop star regularly since then, most recently this past weekend in L.A. when she stopped by the Sunset Towers Hotel for a quick visit with Bieber. Sources tell the magazine that Gomez's parents want her to ditch Bieber for good and head back to Meadows to complete her six-week program.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

That's so tweet: Martin and Paltrow make peace with a painting

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What should a sensitive GOOP-ified husband do to comfort his soon-to-be-ex-beloved in their time of conscious uncoupling? Put a bird on it, of course.

Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow are clearly making an effort to ensure that even their divorce is expensive and classy. Apparently Coldplay front man Martin even bought Paltrow a parting gift — an etching of a bird by Polish artist Mila Fürstová, created as cover art for a Coldplay album, a source told the Daily Mail.

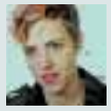
"The fighting is over now, there's no bitterness. They're actually going to have some fun," the source said.

There's the picture above. It's pretty cool and the sort of thing that Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow would have in their living room.

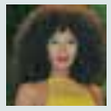
It seems unfair that even their divorce is cooler than me. Or maybe not: Mila Fürstová's staff denies that Chris Martin bought one of her works "as a gift or for any other reason."

Twitter

@Pink
I'm hearing I've been hacked... I hope "I" didn't say something out of line. Can I always say I've been hacked now? When I do that?



@samantharonson
Just found a piece of cheese in my sleeve- in case you were wondering how this not smoking thing is going.



@solangeknowles
This damn taxi driver... This tweet sponsored by "Shade"

Judd Apatow and Lena Dunham

Apatow admits Girls could have been a lot more graphic

While Lena Dunham's hit HBO series Girls has often been criticized for how far it goes as far as sexual content, producer Judd Apatow reveals that apparently they've wanted to go even farther. "There have been things on Girls where HBO has said to us, 'If we put this on TV, we literally could lose our license to broadcast," Apatow told a group of college students at an event in Los Angeles, according to the New York Post. "Let's just say it's something you see in adult film — elements of sexual intercourse. The high points of sexual intercourse." Maybe they can save that for the DVD.

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Fashion, at its purest, is about telling stories. And the best storytellers are ones with tales to tell themselves. Here, we look at five individuals making waves in the Canadian fashion industry while weaving their own experiences into the mix.

SIGRID FORBERG
life@metronews.ca

5 who stitched their story into a style career

Nana Osei

Designer, Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc.

It was on a trip to Ghana in 2009 that Nana Osei saw an opportunity to combine his passions for social responsibility and fashion. While still in university in Ottawa, he created Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc. The lightweight eyewear, made of reclaimed wood from West Africa and handcrafted in zero-waste facilities in Canada, have been drawing national attention. He's even appeared on the Dragon's Den. In the future, Osei hopes to bring the manufacturing to Africa as well. "People say there's nothing you can do about some things, but I say it always just starts small," says Osei.

Meredith Wright

Filmmaker, Agency

After modelling for several years around the world, and being turned off by the way models were treated everywhere she went, Wright wanted to expose some of the darker sides of the industry. The end result was Agency, a documentary about young girls working for a modelling agency in Japan. Shot through Wright's own perspective, living in an apartment with fellow models in Osaka, Japan, the film aims to get people asking questions about the industry they normally wouldn't. "If I told someone that underage girls were working with no representation, they would be upset," says Wright. "So why is it OK when it's for fashion?"

Lolitta Dandoy

Blogger, Fashion is Everywhere

With a mix of French and English posts on Fashion is Everywhere, Dandoy is the quintessential Montrealer. As a fashion journalist, she'd always wanted to start her own publication. Faced with a cancer diagnosis several years ago, while convalescing at home, she decided to go for it. Surrounded by so much creativity in Montreal, she tries to capture an awareness in her blog that the fashion community *is* in fact a community and has a greater meaning beyond superficial consumerism. "When somebody doesn't feel right in their skin, a lot of that can have to do with their appearance," says Dandoy. "It can change things you don't expect."

Julia Che

President, Lotus Leaf Communications

After studying fashion communications at Ryerson University, Che was working in public relations in Toronto when she noticed a friend, who is a talented jewelry designer, needed help promoting her product. Thus, Lotus Leaf Communications was born. They now represent big-name clients like 7 For All Mankind, Dr. Martens and Manitobah Mukluks. And while they've grown exponentially from that first client, at the end of the day, Che has used the company's success to give back to the community, "Agents of Change is a branch of Lotus Leaf," says Che. "Through it, we can use our expertise to increase awareness about social issues."

Jigme Nehring

Founder, Mine & Yours

After living in Los Angeles, where the buy-sell-trade concept is common, Jigme Nehring decided to bring the model to Vancouver. Her resale shop, Mine & Yours is a place where women can purchase, sell or trade their gently used clothing. Nehring emphasizes the business's aspect of giving women the chance to recycle and find good homes for items that might otherwise collect dust in the back of their closets. The trouble with the fashion industry, Nehring explains, is the amount of waste it produces, which the shop aims to help negate as much as possible. "Mine & Yours helps reduce waste by extending the life of great pieces that are still in style and encouraging people to buy used clothing over new," says Nehring.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Natasha Taylor

Age: 27

Occupation: Project manager and professional dancer

What she's wearing:
H&M tuque, J. Crew Gingham button up, my boyfriend's sweater from Jack & Jones, faux leather zipper leggings from GUESS, Top Shop wedge booties, neon Cambridge style bag from Forever 21.

Her inspiration:
I'm a bit of a tomboy at heart but I also like to incorporate feminine flare. My style is heavily influenced by British street style as well as dancers from the dance community in Toronto.

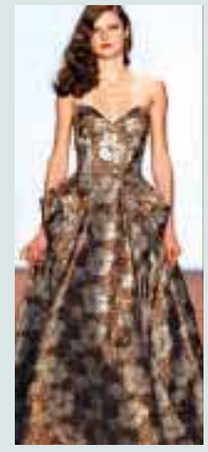
THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT – AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM – AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION, TOO!

Trends Report

Floral fashion dominated the runways from New York to Milan for this season, just in time for spring, despite the prolonged cold weather. Go online to Trends Report to see how to wear pretty petals, from haute couture gowns to casual wear.

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo: Getty Images



LIFE

It's home, petite home

Small is more: A view inside the Morrisons' trailer home shows that you can have all the regular household essentials, even in a tight space. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Humble abode: The house's timber exterior is minimalist in style but feels right at home in its woodland surroundings. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Kitchen cool: It looks just like yours, maybe even better. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Work and rest: Office/eating area and kitchen. TINY HOUSE BUILD

Tiny house movement.
American family goes small, really small, and finds rewards are huge

MICHELLE CASTILLO
Metro World News in London

With their large house in the perfect neighbourhood, the Morrisons thought they were living the American dream. Soon, the strain of living in a spacious abode began to weigh down on their energy levels and their conscience.

"It went from comfort to resentment," Gabriella Morrison explains. "We didn't have time to enjoy the house because we had to work so much more to pay for it."

Luckily, the Morrisons found a simple solution to their homestead woes: They joined the 'tiny house movement.' Its members share the same ideal that living in small spaces can lead to less complex lives and less waste.

After reading The Small House Book by Jay Shafer, the Morrisons got rid of 50 per cent of their items within six months. Soon after, Gabriella, her husband Andrew and their daughter Terra sold their house, bought a pop-up tent trailer and moved to Baja California, Mexico.

"There's something about living in that teeny tiny pop-up trailer; we were finally able to connect with each other. It's lasted all this time. The changes that we experienced I daresay, it was really permanent," says Gabriella.

Wanting to continue their success, Gabriella and Andrew moved to Ashland, Ore. and built a 32 square metre trailer to live in. The structure, which took four months to build, contains two full-sized beds, a working/eating area, a kitchen, a bathroom and a lounge area for visitors.

To make sure they are living green, Andrew puts a special focus on cooling and heating their place efficiently. The high ceilings and multiple windows help keep the place breezy. A gas-burning fireplace helps warm the residence and allows them to turn off the device if they aren't around. Having a small house enables them to use less energy to accomplish both tasks.

The most expensive piece of "furniture" in the Morrison trailer was a $1,400 composting toilet — a dry toilet that turns human waste into compost, or 'humanure'.

They also purchase smaller-sized items they know that they can finish instead of buying in bulk, so they don't have excessive products and create more waste. In addition, there's no extra storage space in their tiny abode.

"The warehouse shopping thing is an unbelievable myth and farce," Gabriella explained. "You go in and see these amazing deals. The amount of things that went to waste was shocking. It's just too much. You can't use 40 bars of soap in a lifetime."

Three and a half years after making this choice, they have purged 80 per cent of their belongings. They live by the rule that if they don't use something in the last 365 days, they toss it out.

The Morrisons do own one storage unit, but are planning to sell most of the items inside. They allow themselves one Tupperware each for heirlooms. For anything sentimental that's not really needed, they take a picture to keep it in their memories but throw the item away.

Above all, the Morrisons' initiative is about staying simple and becoming independent.

"One of our biggest passions in life is empowering the average person to build their own shelter. With the right information and a little encouragement even those with no previous building experience can handcraft their dream home," adds Andrew.

A room of one's own — for lucky tween

Admittedly, the Morrisons' living space can get a bit too cramped, especially with their two children to look after. So they built a small lookout cabin 30 metres away for their 12-year-old daughter Terra where she can study and sleep. Andrew has also started a larger treehouse project for his 17-year-old son, who's returned from college prep boarding school in Colorado. It's something he always promised his son since he was a child. "Now, we can finally do it — although the scope of the treehouse has got a lot more complicated," he adds laughing. MWN

LAVISH IN A LUXURIOUS LIFESTYLE

NEWLY CONSTRUCTED PENTHOUSE SUITES AT 133 NIAKWA RD.

CONTRIBUTED

Edison Properties has an established heritage, originating in 1962 when Martin Bergen formed the Marlborough Development Corporation Ltd., and began his first significant venture with the 100-suite General Grant building, built in 1964. By 1970, MDC was the leading developer of multi-family housing in Manitoba.

Interestingly, the largest project undertaken by Bergen's company to date is Fort Garry Place, a three-tower development in the heart of Winnipeg that includes offices and apartments, as well as the renowned revolving restaurant.

All of Edison's properties have dedicated on-site management, as well as a 24-hour emergency line to ensure assistance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The caretaking and maintenance staff works hard to keep its properties — and your suite — looking their best so you can be proud of your home.

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Mahogany Frog is nominated for their first Juno. CONTRIBUTED

Mahogany Frog leaping for joy

Rrrribit. After a decade of slogging it out the Winnipeg group got its first Juno nomination

ELISHA DACEY
elisha.dacey@metronews.ca

Knock on wood? Mahogany Frog is hopeful their first Juno nomination will also be their first win.

The group's latest album, Senna, is nominated for instrumental album of the year.

Founding member Graham Epp said it's hard to pin down the band's genre, other than instrumental.

"For us, we never decided we were going to go down for a particular sound," said Epp. "We use guitars, a whole bunch of vintage synths, bass, drums and a lot of electronics.

"It can be pretty noisy, there's a lot of noise that we're trying to use to make something," added Epp. "You're taking a noise that can be quite abrasive ... and using that to create something that can be quite beautiful."

The 'Peg

Mahogany Frog has been releasing albums for 10 years out of Winnipeg. Graham Epp cited Miles Davis's electronica music as a major influencer to the band.

The band is currently made up of Epp on guitar and keyboard, Andy Rudolph on drums and electronics, Scott Ellenberger on bass and electronics and Jessie Warkentin on keyboard and guitar.

"For us, we're not writing anything down, yet it isn't improvised. We're having to listen to each other and collaborate and listen to each other's ideas to create our sound, yet it's still structured."

Mahogany Frog is fresh off the Western Canadian Music Awards instrumental album of the year win, and Epp said he thinks that's partly why the band was nominated for a Juno.

"Maybe it opened some doors and more people found out about us."

Propp gets props for latest album

A quick study. Local jazz singer-songwriter applied some lessons from her prof-turned-producer of her record

Win

Erin Propp and Larry Roy are fresh off their win for the Western Canada Music Award for best jazz recording for Courage, My Love.

Most professors hope their students achieve success, but few probably have as direct a hand in it as Larry Roy did for Erin Propp.

Propp, a singer-songwriter who exploded onto Winnipeg's jazz scene two years ago, is nominated, along with Roy, for a Juno for vocal jazz album of the year for her first album, Courage, My Love.

"I first met Larry at the University of Manitoba in the jazz program, he was my professor," said Propp. "It was during my degree that we realized we had a great musical connection.

"It's been a really serendipitous couple of years."

Roy, a guitarist, works with several artists around Winnipeg, and has collaborated on several albums. Propp said Roy's experience and expertise were instrumental in getting her album made.

"Larry's travelled on tour, in Europe and the like, but I am a complete unknown," said Propp. "To me, that just speaks to the strength of the music.

"The music that we ended up writing, we weren't, like, this is going to be a jazz album. We wrote what came out of us and put it all together on the record. We hope there was some continuity on the record."

Roy is also the sound engineer and producer on Courage, My Love, said Propp, and she said it took the duo a year of hard work to make the album.

"He worked endless, just tireless hours in (the studio)." ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Erin Propp and Larry Roy's album is up for a Juno. CONTRIBUTED

Congratulations to our Radio & TV Broadcaster students who are working at the Juno awards
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Trip down Juno memory lane

Gurevich Fine Art.
Award show opens up its picture books for photo exhibit celebrating 40 years of honouring good music

SHELLEY COOK
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Alexandra Rohne stands in front of the exhibit at Gurevich Fine Art. SHELLEY COOK/FOR METRO

Some "never before seen" photos from the Juno Awards' 40th Anniversary Book will be on display at Gurevich Fine Art all week, leading up to Sunday's big Juno Awards show.

The exhibit, which is free of charge, features more than 40 photos from some of Canada's most prominent rock and roll photographers, including Barry Roden, Bruce Cole, Grant Martin, Tom Sandler, as well as photographers from iPhoto Inc.

"It's a really cool exhibit to have," said Alexandra Rohne, spokesperson for Gurevich Fine Art. "We're very excited to be able to hang them in our space."

Some of the Junos' most candid moments throughout its 40-year history are captured in the exhibit. They include a 1985 grainy black and white photo of k.d. lang in a wedding dress and veil, cradling her Juno, and a 2013 photo of Carly Rae Jepsen performing in a yellow dress against a purple backdrop.

Other Canadian icons in the series are Neil Young, wearing a ruffled shirt and bow tie; Justin Bieber and Drake performing; Michael Buble schmoozing with Anne Murray and k.d. lang; Alanis Morissette sporting ringlets before her more brash Jagged Little Pill days; and the Tragically Hip performing.

At a glance

The Juno photo exhibit officially opened Wednesday night at 7 p.m. with a free public reception, featuring Winnipeg singer-songwriter Claire Morrison. The exhibit runs during the gallery's regular business hours until Sunday afternoon.

- For more information visit gurevichfineart.com.

River East Collegiate music teacher gets top nod from MusiCounts

River East Collegiate music teacher Jeff Kula got quite a shock after sitting down for what he thought was a routine assembly at the school Wednesday afternoon.

Kula quickly found out the assembly had actually been called so that Canadian country music star and 2014 Juno nominee Gord Bamford could present him with MusiCounts' Teacher of the Year Award.

"I was led here on false pretences," laughed Kula after getting the award and $10,000 for the school's music program and another $10,000 for himself. The prizes were both donated by Bamford.

"I'm very humbled and overwhelmed by this, and really it's about the students, it's not for me."

As well as the award and the cash, Kula also received VIP tickets to this Sunday's Juno Awards.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Canadian country music star and Juno nominee Gord Bamford presented River East Collegiate teacher Jeff Kula with MusiCounts' Teacher of the Year Award at a surprise ceremony at the school Wednesday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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Taste of the Nation Highlights Foodie Trends

Fresh fish. Even the lowly anchovy provided a punch.

SHEL ZOLKEWICH
River City Kitchen
winnipeg@metronews.ca

The bad news is that Taste of the Nation, an annual foodie fund-raising event that features over 40 restaurants, happened earlier this week. The good news is that you have almost a year to anticipate one of the city's most delicious culinary gatherings.

One of the best things about Taste of the Nation—aside from a grand offering of top-shelf food and drink—is that the city's chefs often showcase trends. Some restaurants highlight the best sellers from their menus. Other chefs take this event to go a little outside the box and show diners what they're capable of doing, even if it's not on the menu right now.

This year, the trend was fish, an ingredient that's sadly overlooked here on the Prairies. At least eight restaurants included fish as part of their samples. Some of the tastiest bites came from low profile fishes like anchovies and mackerel.

Segovia Tapas Bar and Restaurant's (484 Stradbrook Ave.) white anchovies with avocado deserved a second visit. Peasant Cookery's (282 Bannatyne Ave.) mackerel escabeche (marinated in acidic vegetables then fried) made you want to utter that famous phrase (holy mackerel!). Diversity Food Services, which operates Elements Restaurant (599 Portage Ave.), also put anchovies on the menu, this time with an irresistible house made ricotta.

Deseo Bistro paired tuna with anchovies for its offering of the night. The students at Patterson Global Food/Red River College made smoked Manitoba northern pike sliders. Pizzeria Gusto put together a bite with cured Manitoba Arctic char, pickled beet and grainy mustard.

So next time you're at your favourite joint—or a brand new place—order the fish. You won't be disappointed.

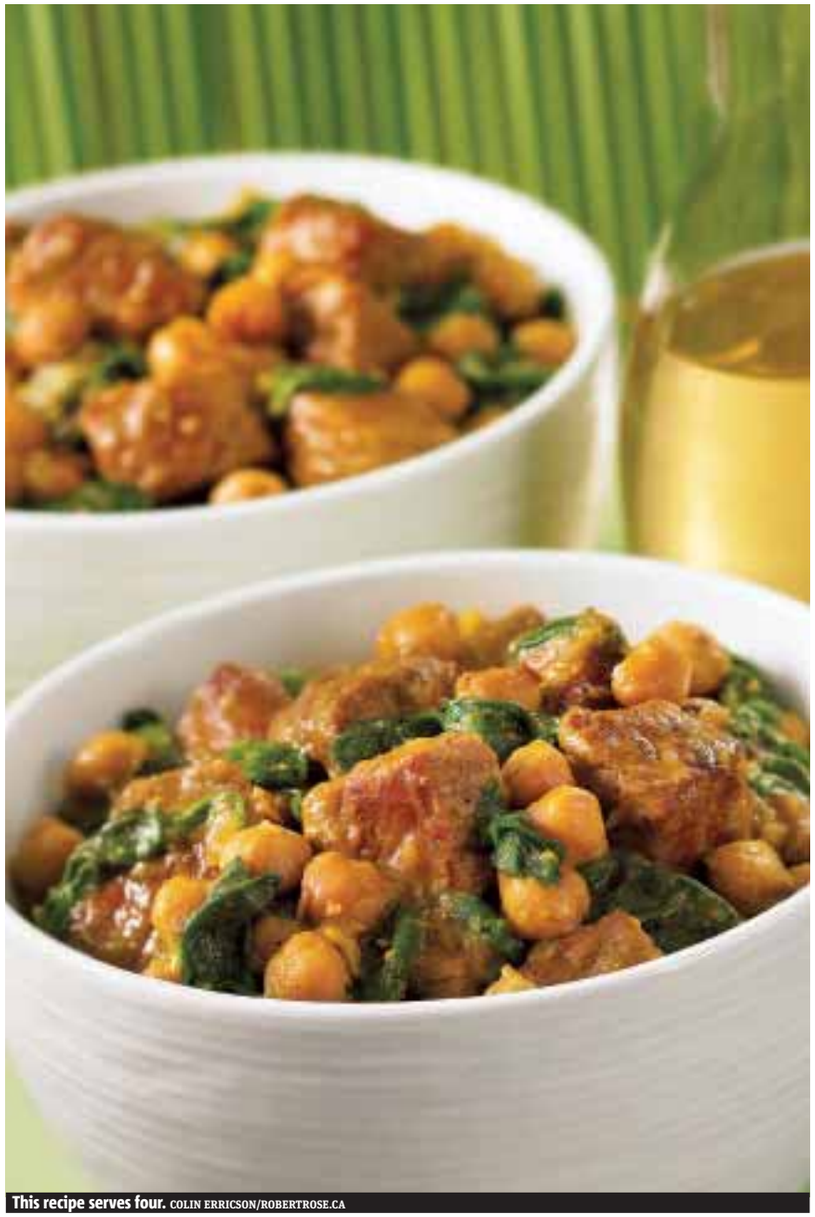
Shel Zolkewich writes about food, travel and the outdoors when she's not eating, on the road or playing outside. Got a food story idea? shel@shelzolkewich.com

White anchovies with avocado and pear form Segovia Tapas Bar & Restaurant. SHEL ZOLKEWICH/FOR METRO

Did you know
the UN has declared 2014 as the International Year of Family Farming?
Celebrate and connect with local farmers, like the Ellis's who are growing heart healthy canola!
Canola!
Manitoba Canola Growers

Slow cooker meal packs protein punch

Beef and Chickpea Curry with Spinach. The Indian-inspired flavours will have your taste buds doing a happy dance



This recipe serves four. COLIN ERRICSON/ROBERTROSE.CA

Cookbook of the Week

Slow and steady wins health race

In the follow-up to the first edition of The Healthy Slow Cooker, Judith Finlayson takes conflicting information about the changing face of dietary guidelines and balances it with a common-sense approach.

All the recipes in the book are deliciously nutrient-dense and have a rounded approach to meet a wide range of needs.

From soups and entrées to desserts, Finlayson uses the slow cooker to show readers how simple healthy eating can be.

Among recipes are Easy Paella, Cheesy Grits, Bistro Fish Soup and more. METRO

Ingredients and Tools

- Medium to large (3 1/2 to 5 quart) slow cooker
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 1 lb (500 g) trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1/2-inch (1 cm) cubes
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced gingerroot
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cracked black peppercorns
- 1 piece (1 inch/2.5 cm) cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup (250 ml) beef stock
- 2 cups (500 ml) cooked chickpeas, drained
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder, dissolved in 2 tsp (10 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 lb (500 g) fresh spinach, stems removed
- 1 package (10 oz/300 g) spinach leaves, thawed if frozen
- Plain yogurt, optional

"I like to serve this with brown basmati rice, not only because I like its pleasant nutty flavor but also for its nutritional value," writes Judith Finalyson in her book The Healthy Slow Cooker, Second Edition.

1. In a skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add beef, in batches, and cook, stirring, adding additional oil if necessary, until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware.

2. Reduce heat to medium. Add onions to pan and cook, stirring, until softened, about 3 minutes. Add garlic, ginger, peppercorns, cinnamon stick and bay leaf and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add beef stock and bring to a boil.

3. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware. Add chickpeas and stir well. Cover and cook on Low for 8 hours or on High for 4 hours, until beef is tender. Add curry solution and stir well. Add spinach, in batches, stirring until each batch is submerged. Cover and cook on High for 20 minutes, until spinach is wilted. Discard cinnamon stick and bay leaf. Ladle into bowls and drizzle with yogurt. COURTESY THE HEALTHY SLOW COOKER, SECOND EDITION BY JUDITH FINLAYSON, 2014 © ROBERTROSE.CA REPRINTED WITH PUBLISHER PERMISSION.

Take the family out for a hike for some outdoor exercise. GOODLUZ/SHUTTERSTOCK

Put a spring in your step

New season. Activities that will make you forget the long winter we have endured

KELLY PUTTER
For Metro

As we usher in spring don't let the cool weather and threat of flurries dampen your enthusiasm for outdoor fun in the sun.

The warm weather is coming. That's a promise.

Ease your atrophied muscles back to health with an outdoor exercise regime that blends fresh air and fitness. Try an outdoor yoga class or boot camp. Find your favourite public space and work out using just your body weight as resistance for squats, lunges or push-ups. Take a hike. Go for a run or just amble along.

Shopping outdoors is almost as good as retail therapy gets. Open-air markets, street vendors and yard sales all signal warmer weather. Outdoor farmers' markets, in which growers, foodies and artisans promote the freshness and quality of their wares, are back in full swing. If you are on a tight budget, try some old-fashioned window shopping instead.

Hone your green thumb. Use garden apps such as Garden Squared or Into Gardens to plan for the upcoming growing season. Start seeds indoors to get plants hale and hearty for summer's sun. In an effort to encourage bees that have been mysteriously disappearing lately, grow bee-friendly plants such as primrose, crocus and lavender.

Take a Sunday drive to your nearest orchard to visit the blossoms. Consider growing heirloom varieties of vegetables for your summer salads. And don't forget to compost.

Let's chew on the fact that nearly everything is better when done outdoors and that means eating, too. Whether dining on your favourite terrace, pop-up patio or from a food truck or street vendor, food and fresh air are two ingredients that create the perfect summer pastime.

Bring on picnics, backyard barbecues, fairs and drive-ins, all awesome al fresco eating venues when the nicer weather arrives.

New outlook

- Ease back slowly into exercise if you have taken a winter sabbatical.
- Clean and purify your diet, your cosmetics bag, your gym bag and your home.
- Revamp your wardrobe.
- Consider a new hairstyle or colour.
- Have your vehicle, motorcycle or bike tuned up.
- Book a cottage or plan a summer holiday.

Regrowth. Dig into these seasonal ideas

SHARON DEVELLIS
YummyMummyClub.ca

Think about planting seeds now so they will be ready to transfer to your garden. MONKEY BUSINESS IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

Even though the weather may not feel like spring, here are a few ways to celebrate the new season.

Start your seeds

With snow on the ground you probably aren't thinking of your garden just yet, but now is the perfect time to start seeds. Typically, you want to start your seeds six to eight weeks before the expected last frost date in your area. Also, you don't need expensive store bought pots to start your seeds.

Begin spring cleaning

This is the perfect time to get a jump-start on your spring cleaning. Open windows to air out your house, tackle the baseboards, dust the top of light fixtures and do all the other stuff you have been putting off all winter.

Put a bird feeder in your yard

The birds will soon be returning from their long trek down south. Welcome them with a bird feeder or bird house.

Buy some flowers

Nothing says spring like fresh flowers. Treat yourself to a bouquet that will brighten your day without wilting your wallet. Or better yet, buy a plant in a pot that you can plant outdoors when the weather is nice.

Eat spring produce

Start with green — asparagus, fiddleheads, and peas — then add colour with radishes and rhubarb. As the spring season progresses, more in-season produce will become available and your table will be filled with a rainbow of colours.

Get outside

We've been cooped up all winter, so it's time to get out and enjoy the warm weather. And if it's not warm yet, still go out and get some fresh air. It will make you feel better.

De-clutter and get ready for a garage sale

It's time to get rid of the stuff you don't use. Tackle the toys, comb through the clothes, and bring out the books you don't need. When warm weather hits you will be ready to throw your first garage sale of the season.

Take out your spring wardrobe

After months of greys, blacks, and dark blue hues, it's time to bring on the colour.

YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA IS AN ONLINE RESOURCE TO HELP BUSY WOMEN SURVIVE MOTHERHOOD.

Blue Jays win after Dickey's dismal start

The Blue Jays' Melky Cabrera greets Jose Bautista at the plate after both scored on Adam Lind's fifth-inning single in Wednesday's spring training game against the New York Yankees in Dunedin, Fla. Toronto opening day starter R.A. Dickey gave up six runs and seven hits over three innings but the Jays still won 10-6. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL investing in the future for 2015

CFL. Commish Cohon sings praises of IGF, talks CBA at Grey Cup announcement

Mark Cohon says he's looking forward to showcasing the modern CFL in one of the league's proudest homes.

Sporting a blue-and-gold tie, the CFL commissioner officially announced Wednesday that the Winnipeg Blue Bombers will host the 103rd Grey Cup game on Nov. 29, 2015.

Cohon said the event will highlight the growth of the league and show off the 33,500-seat Investors Group Field, which opened last year. Seating will be expanded to 41,000 with temporary seating for the championship game.

Winnipeg has hosted the Grey Cup in 2006, 1999 and 1991.

"This gives us a great opportunity to showcase the modern CFL in our premier event in a beautiful, modern Investors Group Field," Cohon said at a luncheon in Winnipeg.

"It's really the new look and feel that we have that's coming across the league."

The almost-new Investors Group Field will host next year's Grey Cup. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"We plan on showcasing to the rest of Canada what kind of spirit and party Manitobans can throw for this Grey Cup festival."

Bombers president and chief executive officer Wade Miller

He pointed out the Hamilton Tiger-Cats will open Tim Hortons Field this summer, while the expansion Ottawa Redblacks will christen TD Place this year. Regina is set to open its new stadium for the Saskatchewan Roughriders in 2017.

But there are some dark clouds looming over the league, as the four-year collective bargaining agreement with the CFL Players' Association expires in late May just before training camps open.

Players are looking for a bigger piece of the pie, with revenue sharing reportedly one of their goals. Talks between the association and league broke off earlier this month, but are scheduled to continue next month.

Cohon has been publicly silent on negotiations, but when asked about it he said the league has been open with players about the state of its finances.

"It's not about revenues, it's about profitability," Cohon said.

"So I think it's really important that people understand, and our players understand that, and our fans understand, this league is getting stronger but we still have a ways to go."

When asked about the league being philosophically against the concept of a revenue-sharing agreement, Cohon said he wouldn't talk specifics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Lundqvist locks down Rangers' win over Flyers

Henrik Lundqvist stopped 30 shots and came within 1:53 of his second shutout in three games, and the New York Rangers stretched their season-best winning streak to five games with a 3-1 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night.

The second-place Rangers moved three points ahead of third-place Philadelphia in the Metropolitan Division race by winning what could be a playoff preview. New York has eight games remaining, and the Flyers have 10 left.

Philadelphia, which had a five-game winning streak broken against Los Angeles on Monday, has dropped two in a row for the first time since an 0-3-1 skid from Jan. 20-25.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Bears sign Allen to replace Peppers

The Chicago Bears replaced one accomplished veteran pass rusher with another Wednesday when they agreed to terms with Jared Allen on a four-year contract.

A person with knowledge of the agreement told The Associated Press that Allen will get $15.5 million guaranteed on a deal that could be worth as much as $32 million. The person requested anonymity because the terms have not been announced.

Allen, 31, will take over for Julius Peppers, who signed with Green Bay as a free agent after being released by the Bears.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Djoker pulls fast one on Murray

Novak Djokovic benefited from an erroneous call and claimed he didn't realize he had broken the rules. When Andy Murray walked to the net and challenged him about it, Djokovic responded with a shrug and a sheepish smile.

Murray lost the dispute, and the match. The pivotal ruling helped Djokovic win 7-5, 6-3 in the quarter-finals of the Sony Open.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Graham DeLaet of Weyburn, Sask., plays a shot on the second hole during the first round of the World Golf Championships in Marana, Ariz., on Feb. 19. ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

DeLaet on course for mastery at Augusta

PGA. Canadian golfer not daunted by first bid for Green Jacket

Graham DeLaet won't be so much in awe of Augusta National Golf Club when he makes his Masters debut next month.

The native of Weyburn, Sask., made a trip to the fabled golf course last week. Although bad weather prevented him from playing a full round, he did walk the par-72, 7,435-yard layout and make mental notes regarding the lay of the land.

"It was drizzly rain and cold the first day and it was pretty tough on my body to swing in that kind of cold with that many layers on," DeLaet said during a conference call Wednesday. "But it was still very worthwhile to go and see the course … and kind of get the 'wow' factor out of the way. It (the course) was pretty much perfect."

An ardent television viewer of past Masters tournaments — including Canadian Mike Weir's 2003 championship — DeLaet said actually walking the course was a learning experience.

And from what DeLaet saw, he has the game to potentially succeed at Augusta.

"I do feel the golf course suits my game pretty well," he said. "I mean, it's a big golf course.… You have to drive it well and hit your irons precisely."

On Tuesday, Weir, of Bright's Grove, Ont., told reporters he felt DeLaet, 32, could contend at Augusta.

"I think Graham obviously has the type of game that can do very well there," Weir said. "He hits it long, he hits it very high."

DeLaet said he always has butterflies when he hits his first tee shot to officially open a tournament. But having played previously in the British Open as well as last year's President's Cup, DeLaet feels he knows what to expect heading into his first Masters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Graham's great start

The five-foot-11, 165-pound DeLaet is enjoying a solid start to the PGA season.

- **In the hunt.** He's recorded five top-10 finishes, including two second-place efforts, and made the cut in eight of nine tournaments.
- **Ranking.** DeLaet stands 15th in the FedExCup standings.
- **Money talks.** He has already won more than $1.6 million US this season and last season earned $2.8 million and enjoyed seven top-10 finishes.

OHL

Stick-swinging ban for Knights goaltender

London Knights goaltender Anthony Stolarz has been suspended eight games for swinging his stick at the head of Windsor Spitfires forward Josh Ho-Sang, the Ontario Hockey League team announced Wednesday.

In the first period of London's incident-filled 10-2 victory in Game 3 of their first-round series on Tuesday night, Ho-Sang jabbed his stick at the goaltender after a play at the net. As the Spitfires star skated away, Stolarz took a one-handed swing with his stick and hit Ho-Sung on the back of the head. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Knights goaltender Anthony Stolarz TERRY WILSON/OHL IMAGES

Sochi 2014. High-flying freestylers touch down

It's been a whirlwind couple of months for Mikael Kingsbury that included winning an Olympic silver medal and capturing his third consecutive overall World Cup title.

Now the Canadian moguls skier can't wait to put his feet up.

"I'm a Habs fan. I love hockey," Kingsbury said. "The thing I'm most excited for is to have a full day off, have a chance to sit on my couch with a beer, because we don't drink much during the World Cup circuit."

But first, there are interviews and public appearances and the Canadian freestyle championships this weekend at Apex Resort in Penticton, B.C.

Kingsbury, and moguls sisters Justine, Chloe and Maxime Dufour-Lapointe — among Canada's biggest stories at the Sochi Olympics — finally touched down on Canadian soil on Tuesday, and did the media rounds in Toronto on Wednesday.

The foursome was at Ryerson University to be honoured by Toronto Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly.

Justine Dufour-Lapointe won moguls gold at the Sochi Olympics, while 22-year-old sister Chloe captured silver, and the image of the Montreal sisters holding hands before stepping onto the medal podium will be one of the most enduring images of the Games.

Maxime, 25, was 12th in Sochi.

Last week, the sisters finished second through fourth in the season's overall World Cup moguls standings; Justine finished second, followed by Chloe and Maxime.

Kingsbury, a 21-year-old from Deux-Montagnes, Que., finished second to Canadian teammate Alexandre Bilodeau at the Sochi Olympics, then claimed his third straight Crystal Globe as the season World Cup winner.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A warm welcome

"Today is our first day, 24 hours in Canada, so I think it's starting to hit us, realizing the impact we created."

Canadian Olympian Justine Dufour-Lapointe reacts to her family's performance in Sochi.

Desperate Canucks answer call of the Wild

The Vancouver Canucks' left wing David Booth reacts after scoring a second-period goal on Minnesota Wild goalie Darcy Kuemper during NHL action in St. Paul, Minn., on Wednesday. The Canucks won 5-2 and kept their slim hopes of qualifying for this year's Stanley Cup playoffs alive with the victory. Vancouver travels to Denver for a must-win game against the Colorado Avalanche on Thursday. ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: -8° MIN: -18°	MAX: -5° MIN: -13°	MAX: 0° MIN: -3°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST
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The stars have aligned. It's time to put your doubts behind you and get the vehicle you deserve. **It all starts with a call to Birchwood Credit Solutions.**

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	4		5					
		9		2				3
		7		1	6	8	5	
		6						2
	9	5		3		1	8	
4						9		
	1	4	2	6		3		
2				8		6		
					5		7	

Yesterday's Sudoku

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Hopefully you will see solutions today where before you saw only problems. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to money matters and business issues that involve other people. Together you can make profit.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Do you get involved in a feud between friends? You know the answer, so don't be silly and stand between them to try to keep the peace. If you do, they will gang up on you.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If you can get someone else to do some of your chores for you today then go for it. . You have more important matters to take care of and, having burned the candle at both ends of late, you may not have much energy to spare.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Others can sense your self-confidence and because of that they want to do things for you. Who are you to refuse any offers? It will give you more time to work on a creative project.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you need help over the next 24 hours come right out and ask for it. If you wait for others to realize that you require assistance chances are you will never get it — not because they don't care but because they can't read your mind.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will find it easy to express yourself today and, more importantly, others will find it easy to understand you. If you are involved in a creative pursuit this is also a good time to impress important people.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You'll hear something to your benefit today but your suspicious nature could hold you back from taking advantage. Unless there's evidence someone is trying to trick you, take a chance.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will find it easy to work out what is going on in someone's mind today, which in turn will help you decide what you should do next. You have a knack for seeing the kind of body language that other people miss. Make it work for you.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's not like you to withdraw into your shell but you may do so over the next 24 hours. That's OK. You have important issues to decide on and you won't think straight if there is too much noise around you.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
No matter how busy you may be work wise at the moment you must make an effort to free up some time to spend with your friends and your family. They are the people who really matter. For the moment at least your career comes second.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A remark you toss out into the conversation may not be meant in a negative way but that's how one person may take it. If they do seem offended let them know that you meant no harm.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Something will happen today that makes you wonder if there is more going on behind the scenes. Make it your business to find out why certain people are acting so strangely – and use what you discover for your own advantage. SALLY BROMPTON

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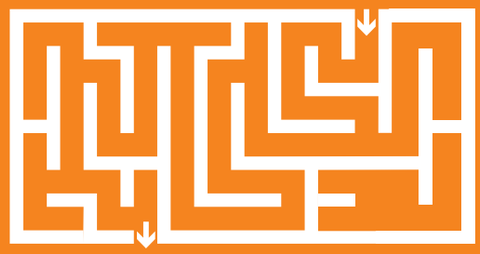

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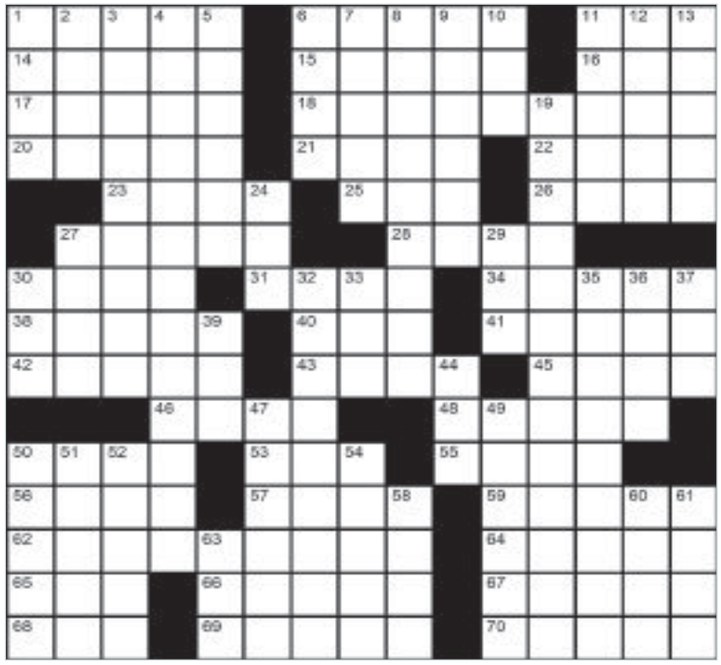
Yesterday's Crossword

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Crockett's "Miami Vice" partner
6. Mythological blood
11. Do
14. __ __ ease (Jittery)
15. Canadian specialty channel
16. __ constrictor
17. Q. "John, George and Ringo ...who's missing?" A. "__, _ think!"
18. Lawyer's briefcase items, briefly: 2 wds.
20. Fishhook line
21. Oohs' pals
22. Funny person
23. __ buckle
25. Traveller's li'l way
26. Other
27. Archie's jalopy, Ol' __
28. Furniture store
30. Jeanne _'__
31. Actress Tara
34. Google service
38. "The Jetsons" character
40. Boot bit
41. Hog
42. Self-congratulatory exclamation!: 2 wds.
43. English river
45. Medieval chest
46. "No __!" (Casual response to "Thanks.")
48. Flashlight precursor
50. Dad
53. Nothing
55. Certain currency
56. Cook's need
57. Bunch
59. "Leggo!"
62. Newfoundland community on the Burin Peninsula
64. James __, White House architect
65. Photo
66. ABBA's "__ _ Chance on Me"
67. Country's Mr. Adkins
68. Tricky
69. Publicity
70. Flower sort

Down

1. Points
2. Mongolia city, __ Bator
3. Oxford, NS: The '__ Capital of Canada'
4. The 'Royal Winnipeg', for one, in dance: 2 wds.
5. Neil Young bandmate, Stephen __
6. Island: Spanish
7. Exonerate
8. The Bay of Fundy is world famous for them: 2 wds.
9. Ric of The Cars
10. Fam. member
11. Heated up, as in cooking
12. Ms. Chanel's
13. Preference
19. 'And Now the Legacy Begins' Hip-Hop greats from Toronto: 2 wds.
24. Norse god of strife
27. Community in The Muskokas in Ontario that has an annual cranberry festival
29. For instances, for short
30. Actress Susan
32. Where Mayor of Toronto Rob Ford was born
33. Promissory note
35. That which Canadian ace Billy Bishop had to engage in during WWI: 2 wds.
36. Length measure
37. Grassland
39. "__ Blues" by The Beatles
44. Printemps follower
47. GM car safety system
49. Alanis Morissette's: "You __ Know"
50. Showy showings
51. Be of service
52. A brother of Ron Weasley's in 'Harry Potter' books
54. 17th-century English composer, Henry __
58. Scientific 'strands'
60. Immobilizing spray
61. Power [abbr.]
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